(b) whether the Agricultural Cost and Price Commission has started functioning, if not, what are the reasons for delay in setting up the Commission and by when the Commission is likely to be established; and

(c) what would be the fundamental difference between the functioning of the Agricultural Cost and Price Commission and that of the Agricultural Price Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) Agricultural Prices Commission was set up on 8th January, 1965 and has been functioning since then as per the approved terms of reference. The Commission was re-named as Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices on 18th March, 1985. Proposal to restructure the Commission and to increase the number of members is under consideration.

(c) The terms of reference of the Commission remain uncharged.

Mandays created in West Bengal through 'Food for Work' Programme

115. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the total mandays created in West Bengal during the period 1977-78 to 1985-86 through the implementation of Food for Work Programme, National Rural Employment Programme and other employment generation programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): Total employment generated in West Bengal during the period 1977-78 to 1985-86 under the Food for Work Programme, National Rural Employment Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme comes to 2990.33 lakh mandays.

Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

116. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of incidents of atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country during 1985 and the first six months of 1986;

(b) the total number of deaths of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as a result of these atrocities during the same period;

(c) the total number of cases involving rape of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe women during the same period; and

(d) what factors are responsible for the rise in the incidents of atrocities on these weaker sections of society?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House (*See below*).

(d) The total number of crimes against Scheduled Castes during 1985 was 15320 as against 15987 in 1984. Similarly, in respect of Scheduled Tribes the total number was 4034 in 1985 against 4300 in 1984. It is thus seen that there was no rise in the total number of incidents of crimes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the year 1985 compared to the figures for 1984.

Statement

Total number of crimes, murder and rape against Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes in 1985 and frist 6 months of 1986

Year	No. of crimes against					
	Schedule Castes			Schedeu'd Tribes		
	Total Crimes	Murder	Rape	Total Crimes	Murder	Rape
1985	15320	498	695	4034	148	241
1986*	4690	177	238	1457	53	107

*Full information in respect of all the States for the first six months of 1986 is not yet available. The information is upto different months for different States.

Allocations for New Steel Projects

117. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total allocation for new steel projects in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and